



Department of the Interior Recovery Investments

Investing in America's Economic Recovery



Abandoned Mine Lands Projects

Need

Arizona has a long history of mining activity. Many of these sites are considered abandoned and have resulted in potential hazards across the National System of Public Lands. These projects will address public safety and use known mitigation methods to make these lands once again useful to the public while providing for the animal species which survive on them.

Recovery Act Funding

BLM Arizona has received \$506,000 through the Recovery Act to fund 15 projects on Abandoned Mine Lands (AML). Thirteen projects are located in western Arizona. One project is located in south central Arizona, just north of Phoenix and one project is located in southeast Arizona. These projects will be primarily accomplished through construction contracts.



Benefits

Hazards presented by abandoned mine shafts and pits on Arizona public lands will be mitigated through the use of fencing, signs, and backfilling methods that will seal the shafts and openings. Hazard mitigation will be implemented to facilitate bat habitat provided by the openings. A typical AML project is the Historic Times Vein mine located near the town of Oatman, Arizona. The goals of this project are public safety and bat habitat protection. Public lands near the town of Oatman experience a high volume of recreational use from hiking to off-highway-vehicle use. The project will fund efforts to reduce the risks to the public and enhance habitat for various species of bats that inhabit the mine and are considered Arizona State Sensitive species.



More Information

For more information on this BLM project, contact: Linda Johnson, BLM-Arizona ARRA Coordinator, Arizona State Office, 602-417-9576, linda_johnson@blm.gov.